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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/550,314	09/22/2005	Shinji Negishi	09792909-6379	1722
26263	7590	02/04/2009	EXAMINER	
SONNENSCHEIN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP			NATNAEL, PAULOS M	
P.O. BOX 061080				
WACKER DRIVE STATION, SEARS TOWER			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/550,314	NEGISHI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	PAULOS M. NATNAEL	2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 November 2008.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims **1-4, 6-9,11-14,16-19** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Patton et al. U.S. Pat. No. 6,144,415.

Considering claims 1 and 6, Patton discloses an apparatus for combining an auxiliary image with a main image (abstract), and discloses all claimed subject matter including the claimed:

- a) a processing unit for performing predetermined processing on the first data, is met by PIP video processor 113, FIG. 2;
- b) a data generation unit for generating the second data, is met by video processor 104, FIG.2;
- c) a combining unit for combining the first data processed by the predetermined processing in the processing unit and the second data generated by the data generation unit, is met by multiplexer 108, FIG.2;
- d) a timing information generation unit for generating timing information for the processing of the processing unit or for processing for generation of the data generation unit so that the combination of the first data processed by the predetermined processing in the processing unit and the second data generated by the generation unit is performed at the same timing, is met by Timing generators 106 and 114, Fig.2;

e) a control unit for correcting a timing for processing or generation to make the processing unit or the data generation unit perform the predetermined processing or data generation based on the timing information generated by the timing information unit, is met by the address generators 118 and 122, FIGs.2 and 7. Patton discloses that a control circuit, generates the quincunx subsampler control signal so that the quincunx subsampler takes samples in one of the sample patterns at the beginning of each auxiliary image video signal field, and in the other sample pattern after a switch time calculated so that the quincunx subsampled auxiliary image samples in the combined image all are taken by the same sample pattern. (Abstract, col. 8, line 20+; See also col. 16, lines 30-50)

Considering claims **2, 7, 12, and 17**, Patton discloses that the subsampler as comprising a delay circuit 440 (FIG.7) meeting the claimed second processing unit.

Considering claims **3, 8,13 and 18**, Patton teaches that the main timing signal generator 106 also produces a signal indicating when the display device is scanning the portion of the display image in which the PIP inset image is to be located and that the PIP timing signal generator 114 identifies, extracts and processes the PIP synchronization component. (See, for example, col. 4, lines 56-59; col. 5, line 1-5)

Considering claims **4, 9, 14 and 19**, Patton discloses the display generator 124 and subsampler 116 (FIG.2) which superpose the timing information received from the timing generators 106 and 114, respectively.

Claims **11 and 16** are method claims of claims 1 and 6 and, thus, claims 11 and 16 are rejected for the same reason as in claims 1 and 6.

2. Claims **5,10,15,20** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patton.

Patton does not specifically disclose superposing the timing information generating from the timing generators to “a blanking period of the first data or the second data relating to an image”. Patton discloses the main timing signal generator 106 generating a signal indicating when the display is scanning the portion of the display image in which the PIP inset image is to be located. (col. 4, lines 56+). It is well known that such timing data may be transmitted superimposed on the blanking period of the video signal. The examiner therefore takes Official Notice in that superposing timing information to a blanking period of a video data is notoriously well in the art and it would have been obvious to the skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Patton accordingly. Doing so would help in generating better synchronization between the two video signals to be combined by the multiplexer/combiner 108.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 11/6/08 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that the Examiner asserts that Patton teaches the claimed control unit and points to the Abstract, col. 8, line 20+, and col. 16, lines 30-50. However, Applicants submit that Patton in fact teaches a quincunx subsampler that takes already processed or generated image samples and calculates a switch time so that they are taken in the sample pattern, rather than corrects a processing or generation timing so that the processing unit or the data generation unit perform the predetermined processing or data Generation, i.e., process or generate image samples, based on the generated timing information, as required by Claim.

Examiner disagrees. Here the applicant is simply repeating the rejection by the examiner. Besides, the control unit for correcting a timing to make the unit (any unit) perform a predetermined function (processing or data generation, or anything else) based on the timing information (generated by the timing information unit, which again means nothing) is very generic. Patton, on the other hand, specifically discloses that the control unit generates control signal and samples the combined image using the quincunx sub-sampler. The argument "the already processed or generated image samples" does not make sense because Patton's calculating/generating a switch time and the claimed processing/generating timing information (applicant's argument, page 2, Remarks) have indeed the meaning. Therefore,

Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PAULOS M. NATNAEL whose telephone number is (571)272-7354. The examiner can normally be reached on 8AM-4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lin Ye can be reached on (571) 272-7372. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/PAULOS M. NATNAEL/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2622

PMN
February 2, 2009